

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, my name is Roland Deane and I am Chairman of the Board of the Montana State Houndsmen Association.

I come to voice support of House Bill 144. I would request you give consideration of making an amendment to House Bill 144. I request that you reserve 15% of the annual Mountain Lion hunting season quota for FWP Commission determination to hold special permit draws for Montana residents. This would provide a quality hunt for a trophy mountain lion to Montana residents. Each hunting district with a quota of 7 would then be allowed one permit.

The change could read

87-1-217, (5) The commission shall establish hunting season quotas for mountain lions and wolves that will prevent the population of elk, deer, and antelope from decreasing beyond the sustainable levels determined pursuant to 87-1-323. Resident hunting licenses and permits for wolves may not be issued by special drawing. The commission may issue 15% of the mountain lion quota to Montana residents as special drawing permits.

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